

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY



SISTER CITY ORGANIZATION AWARDED GRANTS DONALDSON FOUNDATION HELPS SUPPORT JAPANESE PROGRAMS

Bloomington Sister City Organization (BSCO) was recently awarded two grants from the Donaldson Corporation.

One of the grants, in the amount of \$8,500, will be used to support the BSCO-sponsored Japanese language teaching assistant program in Bloomington Public Schools.

A second, \$10,000 grant will be used to support the high school and college student delegation exchange program that offers Bloomington students the opportunity to visit Izumi City, Japan-area schools and be immersed in Japanese culture.

HUMAN SERVICES

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES AND IMPROVING LIVES

Human Services' mission is to provide exceptional programs and services to all Bloomington residents. By acting as a catalyst to enhance the quality of life and services for residents through education, community partnerships, advocacy and resources, Human Services makes a difference.

For more information, call Human Services at 952-563-8733 or TTY 952-563-8740. To sign up for e-mail updates, go to our website, click on [E-Subscribe](#) and subscribe to "Human Services."

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: HUMAN SERVICES.

POEMS UNITE A COMMUNITY POETRY CONTEST WINNERS ANNOUNCED

A poetry contest coordinated by the Human Services Senior Program was held this past July.

More than 75 poems were submitted in a variety of lengths and genres. Participants were allowed to submit up to two, original, unpublished poems.

The names of the winners are:

- 1st place – Connie Claire Szarke, *Homage to a Dying Bird*.
- 2nd place – Karen Molosky, *The Open Book*.
- 3rd place – Cheryl Weibye Wilke, *All the Same, but Different* and Richard Hagen, *More than a Game*.
- 1st honorable mention – Carol Hobart, *Memories*.
- 2nd honorable mention – Luke Anderson, *Old Tucker*.
- 3rd honorable mention – Debbie Pea, *Writing Poetry*.
- 4th honorable mention – Ken Grosch, *Rest Area*.
- 5th honorable mention – Ron Palmer, *Tangled Jewelry*.

Look for information about the 2011 poetry contest in the February *Briefing*.



First place winner Connie Claire Szarke with judges.



CELEBRATING SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY ANNUAL VETERANS' APPRECIATION LUNCH

Human Services invites you to attend a special lunch event honoring veterans on **Monday, November 8, 11:30 a.m.**, at Civic Plaza.

This special lunch will feature entertainment, and a presentation by keynote speaker Sergeant John Kreisel.

Kreisel served in Iraq with the Minnesota National Guard during Operation Enduring Freedom, where he was injured and lost both of his legs.

To make a reservation, call 952-563-4948 or 952-563-4944 V/TTY.

Reservations must be made by November 3.

A SPECIAL PHOTO REMEMBRANCE VETERANS' PHOTOS ON DISPLAY AT CREEKSIDE

A veterans' photo wall will be on display at Creekside Community Center, 9801 Penn Avenue South, during the entire month of November.

The photo wall display began in 2003 and has since grown to more than 200 photos of veterans, featuring men and women from all branches of military service.

To submit a photo of a veteran for this annual recognition, visit Creekside Community Center.



HOLIDAY-THEMED FUN DON'T MISS THE YUMMY "PARTY OF THE MONTH"

Human Services will host two holiday-themed lunches in October and November. Come dressed in your best Halloween costume and have a spooky good time, **Thursday, October 28**.

A Thanksgiving meal complete with turkey and all the trimmings will be served on **Thursday, November 18**.

Reservations may be made in advance by calling 952-563-4948.

SPOTLIGHT ON VOLUNTEERS

HELPING HANDS AT CREEKSIDE IN THE BUSINESS OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Staff from the Minnesota School of Business have been volunteering at Human Services' "Party of the Month" since last spring.

An average of six staff members assist with this special event by setting tables, serving lunch and visiting with the 160 - 170 older adults who attend.

Minnesota School of Business Volunteer Coordinator Katie Mader said Minnesota Business School employees enjoy being able to give back to the community in a tangible way.

"Who knew that serving food could be so much fun?" Mader said.

"Delivering meals while laughing and joking around with seniors has really brightened our volunteers' days."

According to Mader, word is spreading about the fun volunteer opportunities at Creekside.

"We're getting more and more requests to volunteer at the Party of the Month every day," Mader said.



RESOURCES AND WORKSHOPS DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH

October is National Disability Employment and Awareness Month and the Bloomington Human Rights Commission and Disability Employment Awareness Committee will be presenting a series of educational workshops.

The workshops are designed for individuals with disabilities who are seeking employment resources and job-related skills. A number of the workshops will be focused on resume writing and preparation, interviewing skills and general job seeking resources.

WEBSITE KEYWORDS: DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT.



WI-FI ACCESS AT CREEKSIDE

Wi-Fi **Hotspot** The August issue of *People2People* incorrectly stated that computers were available at in the Creekside library. Wi-Fi is available at Creekside for those who bring their own laptops to the facility.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE STEP UP IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Human Services has a variety of volunteer opportunities available to connect you to your community. You can build your resume, make new friends, help others and more.

If you are interested in working with youth, families, multicultural communities, active, aging adults or people with disabilities, visit the City's website or call the number above.

WEBSITE KEYWORD: VOLUNTEER.